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FIFTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE COUNCIL OF THE

ROYAL SCOTTISH ACADEMY

OF

PAINTING, SCULPTURE, AND ARCHITECTURE

INSTITUTED 1826

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER 1838

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1884

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Council and Office-Bearers

OF THE

ROYAL SCOTTISH ACADEMY

OF

Painting, Sculpture, and Architecture,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 12TH NOVEMBER 1884.

Council.

SIR WILLIAM FETTES DOUGLAS, PRESIDENT AND TRUSTEE.

ROBERT GIBB, ESQ.
ALEXANDER FRASER, ESQ.
WILLIAM M'TAGGART, ESQ.
W. D. M'KAY, ESQ.
J. DICK PEDDIE, ESQ.
J. B. McDONALD, ESQ.

GEORGE HAY, ESQ., SECRETARY AND TRUSTEE.
ARTHUR PERIGAL, ESQ., TREASURER AND TRUSTEE.

J. M. BARCLAY, ESQ.,	TRUSTEE.
GOURLAY STEELL, ESQ., W. E. LOCKHART, ESQ.,	AUDITORS.
JOHN HUTCHISON, ESQ.,	LIBRARIAN.
ALEXANDER FRASER, ESQ., ROBERT GIBB, ESQ.,	CURATORS OF LIBRARY.
J. M. BARCLAY, ESQ., W. E. LOCKHART, ESQ., ROBERT GIBB, ESQ., OTTO T. LEYDE, ESQ.,	VISITORS OF LIFE SCHOOL.

THE J. PAUL GETTY CENTER
LIBRARY

REPORT.

The Council of the Royal Scottish Academy for 1884 beg to report to the Annual General Assembly of Academicians as follows :—

I. The Fifty-eighth Exhibition was opened on Saturday the 16th of February, and closed on Saturday the 17th of May. Out of a total of 2453 works sent for exhibition, there were selected and exhibited 1124—viz., 1089 Paintings in Oil and Water-Colour, and 35 works in Sculpture. These were, with comparatively few exceptions, the productions of Scottish Artists and Honorary Members of the Academy. The attendance of Visitors was considerably above the average.

II. The Annual Dinner took place in the Galleries, as usual, on the eve of the opening of the Exhibition, when the President and Council had the pleasure of receiving a numerous and distinguished company.

III. At the Annual General Meeting, held on the 14th of November 1883, Thomas Stuart Burnett, Sculptor, Patrick William Adam, and George Whitton Johnstone were elected to the rank of Associate of the Academy, to fill the vacancies caused by the election of W. D. M'Kay to the rank of Academician, the death of Mungo Burton, and the resignation of R. Rowand Anderson.

IV. At a Special General Meeting held on 26th November, J. W. Oakes, Esq., A.R.A., and Thomas Graham, Esq., were elected to the rank of Honorary Member of the Academy.[1]

V. At the Statutory Meeting of the Academicians, held on 10th of February, William Beattie Brown was elected to the rank of Academician, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Robert Gavin. This election has caused a vacancy in the rank of Associate, which will require to be filled up at the Meeting at which this Report is read.

At the Statutory Meeting in February next, the Academy will be called upon to elect an Academician in place of the late Arthur Perigal.

VI. The following is the Report of the Librarian and the Curators of the Library :—

"There has been an increase in the attendance of the Members in the Library during the past Session.

"The books, prints, drawings, etc., in the Library are in good condition, and catalogued up to date.

"The Librarian has completed the classification and arrangement of the large collection of Drawings bequeathed to the Academy by the late David Laing, H.R.S.A., LL.D. The collection is arranged in sixteen volumes folio, and contains sixteen hundred and sixty-one drawings. The Librarian has also compiled an index to the contents of each volume.

"The following books, prints, etc., have been added to the Library :—

"The Story of the University of Edinburgh during its First Three Hundred Years. By Sir Alexander Grant, Bart., LL.D., etc., etc., Principal and Vice-Chancellor in the University of Edinburgh. With Illustrations. London, 1884. 2 vols., 8vo.

Presented by the University of Edinburgh *on the occasion of its Tercentenary Festival, April* 1884.

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[1] Letters from these gentlemen, acknowledging their election, will be found in the Appendix.

"Board of Manufactures, Catalogue of Loan Exhibition, Edinburgh, 1883. Works of Old Masters and Scottish National Portraits. 8vo.

Presented by the Hon. Board of Manufactures.

"Catalogues of the Exhibitions of the Royal Scottish Academy, from the first in 1827 to 1882. Edinburgh, 1827-82. 5 vols., 4to; 2 vols., 8vo.

Presented by Mrs. Mungo Burton.

"The Law of Artistic Copyright. By Martin Routh. London, 1881, 8vo.

"Titiani Vecelii Pauli Caliarii Jacobi Robusti et Jacobi de Ponte Opera Selectiora. A Joanne Baptista Jackson, Anglo. Ligno Cœlata et Coloribus Adumbrata. Venetiis. Apud Jo. Baptistam Pasquali, 1745. Folio.

"Practical Directions for Learning Flower Drawing. Illustrated by Coloured Drawings. By Patrick Syme, Flower Painter, Edinburgh. 4to. Edinburgh, 1810.

"An Essay on the Invention of Engraving and Printing in Chiaro Oscuro, as practised by Albert Durer, Hugo Di Carpi, etc. And the Application of it to the Making Paper Hangings of Taste, Duration, and Elegance. By Mr. Jackson, of Battersea. Illustrated with Prints in proper Colours. London, 1754. 4to.

The above four Works presented by Sir William Fettes Douglas, *P.*R.S.A., LL.D.

"One Hundred and Sixty-one Proof Impressions from Plates. Engraved by William Forrest, *H.*R.S.A., Engraver.

Presented by William Forrest, Esq., *H.*R.S.A.

"Catalogue. First Public Exhibition in Scotland by Artists. Exhibition Room, Mr. Core's Lyceum. June 20th, 1808. Edinburgh, 1808. 4to.

Presented by William Beattie Brown, Esq. R.S.A.

"Vita di Giacopo Robusti Detto il Tintoretto Celebre Pittore Cittadino Venetiano Fedelmente Descritta da Carlo Ridolfi. Al Serenissimo Principe Francesco Erizzo, et all' Eccellentissimo Senato Veneto. In Venetia, 1642. 4to.

Presented by John Hutchison, Esq., R.S.A.

"The Adventures and a Portion of the Story of the Praiseworthy Valiant, and High-Renowned Hero and Knight, Lord Tewrdannckh. A Reproduction of the edition printed at Augsburg in 1519. Edited by W. Harry Rylands, F.S.A. With an Introduction, by George Bullen, F.S.A., etc., etc., Keeper of the Printed Books in the British Museum. Printed for the Holbein Society. London, 1884. Folio.

"Keramic Art of Japan. By George A. Audsley and James L. Bowes. London, 1881. 4to.

"Paul Lacroix, Directoire Consulat et Empire, Mœurs et Usages, Lettres, Sciences et Arts. France, 1795-1815. Paris, 1884. 4to.

"Paul Lacroix, Louis XII. et Anne de Bretagne, Chronique de L'Histoire de France. Paris, 1882. 4to.

"Academy Notes, with Illustrations. Edited by Henry Blackburn. London, 1875-83. 2 vols., 8vo.

"Grosvenor Notes, with Illustrations. Edited by Henry Blackburn. London, 1878-83. 2 vols., 8vo.

"Salon de 1879. Catalogue Illustré. Paris, 1879-83. 5 vols., 8vo.

"Notes to the Exhibitions of the Glasgow Institute of the Fine Arts, with Illustrations. Edited by George R. Halkett. Glasgow, 1878-82. 8vo.

(Signed) John Hutchison, *Librarian.*
A. Fraser, *Curator.*
Robert Gibb, *Curator.*"

VII. The Visitors of the Life School report as follows:—

"The Session of 1883-4 commenced on 15th Nov. 1883, being fully a week later than usual, owing to a new stove being fitted up in the class-room, and ended on 27th June 1884, including 116 morning, and 116 evening meetings.

"The aggregate evening attendance was 2040, or an average of 17 per night, and 1729 was the aggregate morning attendance, being an average of 15 per morning.

"The Visitors have much pleasure in testifying to the diligence and the progress of the students generally, and to their gentlemanly and decorous conduct.

(Signed) J. M. Barclay, *Visitor.*
Robert Gibb, *Visitor.*
W. E. Lockhart, *Visitor.*
Otto T. Leyde, *Visitor.*"

The Council are glad to observe the generally high quality of the work done in the Life School, and are specially gratified with the progress of several of the younger Students.

It is with much pleasure, also, they express their approbation of several of the works sent this year in competition for the Stuart Prize. In design and composition they are much superior to those submitted in recent years; and the earnest effort evinced in the study of these important qualities deserves warm commendation.

The works of the Students in this year's Exhibition having been previously examined in order to decide the Keith Prize, the studies and competition designs were also carefully scrutinised, and the prizes awarded as follows:—

For Painting from the Life (the Chalmers Prize),	Equal,	C. A. Sellar. J. Bowie.
For the best Drawing from the Life,		T. Alison.
For the second best, .	Equal,	J. K. Ferguson. G. Denholm Armour.
Keith Prize, for the best Work of a Student in this year's Exhibition, .	Equal,	T. Scott. G. Denholm Armour.
Maclaine Watters Medal, . .		C. A. Sellar.
Stuart Prize, .	Equal,	T. Scott. C. Mackie.

Several studies from the Life executed in Water-Colour by T. Scott, also Basso-Relievos, from the Life, executed respectively by J. S. Rhind and W. Martin, deserve Honourable Mention.

VIII. The following additions have been made to the Academy's Collection of Works of Art, etc., during the past year.

1. Coire-na-Faireamh ("a high place where watch was kept"), in Applecross Deer Forest, Ross-shire. Diploma Work of William Beattie Brown, Esq., R.S.A.

2. Portrait of Professor John Stuart Blackie, *H.*R.S.A. By James Archer, Esq., R.S.A.[1]

Presented by James Archer, Esq., R.S.A.

3. Catalogue of the Loan Exhibition of Works of Old Masters, 1883.[2]

Presented by the Honourable the Board of Manufactures.

4. Catalogues of the Annual Exhibitions of the Royal Scottish Academy, from 1827 to 1882.[2]

Presented by Mrs. Mungo Burton.

5. Catalogue of the First Public Exhibition in Scotland by Artists, held in Core's Lyceum, Edinburgh, in 1808.[2]

Presented by William Beattie Brown, Esq., R.S.A.

6. "Story of the University of Edinburgh," by Sir Alexander Grant, Bart., LL.D.[2]

Presented by the University of Edinburgh.

7. "Practical Directions for Learning Flower Drawing." By Patrick Syme, S.A. Edinburgh, 1810.[2]

8. "Opera Selectioria di Vecelli," etc., etc. Venetiis, 1745.

9. An Essay on Invention of Engraving and Printing, etc. By Mr. Jackson of Battersea, 1754.

The above three Works presented by Sir W. Fettes Douglas, *P.*R.S.A.

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[1] A letter from Mr. Archer, presenting the Portrait, with note annexed by Professor Blackie, will be found in the Appendix.

[2] See Library Report.

10. One hundred and sixty-one Proofs of Engravings, by William Forrest, Esq., *H*.R.S.A, Engraver.[1]

Presented by WILLIAM FORREST, Esq., *H*.R.S.A.

11. "Vita del Tintoretto." Venetia, 1642.[1]

Presented by JOHN HUTCHISON, Esq., R.S.A.

The thanks of the Council were duly transmitted to the respective donors.

IX. A Special General Meeting of the Academy was held on 26th November 1883, for the purpose of considering whether West Princes Street Gardens was a proper site for the proposed Forestry Exhibition. The Members unanimously condemned the proposal, and resolved to memorialise the Town Council on the subject. This, however, was rendered unnecessary, it being found that buildings could not legally be erected in the gardens. The threatened outrage was thus happily averted.

X. The Academy, at a Meeting held on 10th April, resolved to address a letter of condolence and sympathy to the Queen on the lamented death of His Royal Highness Prince Leopold, the Duke of Albany. A copy of the above, and reply intimating that Her Majesty was pleased to receive the Address very graciously, will be found in the Appendix.

XI. The Council have to report that, at Meetings held 19th March and 24th June, Memorials were addressed respectively to the Prime Minister and the House of Commons in favour of the proposed restoration of the Castle Hall, and of the "Access to Mountains (Scotland) Bill."

[1] See Library Report.

XII. The Academy, in recognition of the Tercentenary of the Edinburgh University, during the celebration of its Festival held in honour of the occasion, had the pleasure of giving, on the 18th of April, an afternoon Reception in the Galleries of the Academy, *en suite* with those of the National Gallery. A very numerous company was present, including the distinguished delegates and guests of the University. An Extract from the Minutes of the Senatus Academicus of 26th April, relating to the above, will be found in the Appendix.[1]

XIII. With much regret the Council have to report the loss sustained by the Academy in the sudden death of their esteemed Treasurer, Arthur Perigal, one of the oldest Members of the Academy. He was elected an Associate in 1841, and attained the rank of Academician in 1868. With the concurrence of the representatives of the deceased, the President, Council, and a large number of Members were present at the funeral, to pay their last tribute of respect to their late Treasurer.

The following Minute was unanimously adopted at a Meeting of Council held on 14th June :—

"The Academy have the painful duty to record in their Minutes the death on 5th June of their esteemed fellow-member, Arthur Perigal, who for the past four years has ably filled the office of Treasurer. To the Annual Exhibitions he was a regular and liberal contributor, generally having his full quota of work, and the duties he had officially to perform never interfered with his devotion to his Art. Born in London in 1816, he was brought to Edinburgh in

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[1] The University having invited the Academy to send a Delegate to their Tercentenary celebration, the Academy unanimously appointed their President to represent them on that occasion, when the honorary degree of LL.D. was conferred on him.

very early life. Following the example of his father—who was an artist and a pupil of Fuseli, he turned his talents to landscape painting, though for many years he was also a very successful teacher. However, very soon his Art enthusiasm led him to devote himself wholly to the practice of his profession. His subjects were generally taken from mountain and loch scenery in Scotland, though latterly his frequent visits to Italy and Switzerland led him to extend the range of his Art practice. Of a kindly genial disposition, he was personally esteemed by all his professional brethren ; and his sudden removal is deplored by the Academic body of which he was a consistent and steady support."

The Secretary was instructed to transmit a copy of this Minute to his son, Dr. Arthur Perigal, in a letter of condolence and sympathy with him and the other relatives of the deceased in their affliction.

XIV. At a Special General Meeting of the Academy held on 14th June, convened in accordance with the laws to fill the vacancy in the Treasurership, caused by the death of Arthur Perigal, J. M. Barclay was elected to the office.

WM. FETTES DOUGLAS,
President.

ROYAL SCOTTISH ACADEMY,
12*th November* 1884.

APPENDIX.

Letters expressing Thanks on Election to Honorary Membership.

STANHOPE YARD, DELANCEY STREET, N.W.,
LONDON, 30*th November* 1883.

DEAR HAY,—I received your letter to-day informing me of my having been elected by the Academy an Honorary Member.

I need not say that I feel very proud of this distinction; and, as an old student of the Academy, this distinguished encouragement will not fail to assist me in my aspirations towards its glorious traditions.—I am, yours very sincerely,

T. GRAHAM.

GEORGE HAY, Esq., R.S.A.,
Secretary.

LEAM HOUSE, ADDISON ROAD,
KENSINGTON, 30*th November* 1883.

MY DEAR SIR,—How can I thank you and the members for my election as an Honorary Member of the Royal Scottish Academy? I can only attribute it to their kindness, not to any merit I possess.

However, I give them my very best thanks for the honour they have conferred upon me.—I am, my dear Sir, yours most sincerely,

J. W. OAKES.

G. HAY, Esq.,
Secy. R.S.A.

Address to Her Majesty on the Death of His Royal Highness Prince Leopold, the Duke of Albany, K.G.

To Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen.

The President, Council, and Members of the Royal Scottish Academy of Painting, Sculpture, and Architecture desire to approach the Queen with their humble expression of profound sorrow for the loss which has been sustained by Her Majesty in the demise of her much loved and highly gifted son, Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany.

In connection with the feeling of sadness which his too early death has diffused through Her Majesty's dominions, they humbly beg to record their sense of the loss to the country of a career which promised an illustrious future.

The Academy almost fear to express their respectful sympathy with the mourning which they fully share with all Her Majesty's subjects; but these few words, they hope, will indicate, however inadequately, their great sorrow.

(Signed) W. FETTES DOUGLAS, *President.*
GEORGE HAY, *Secretary.*

Letter intimating having laid before Her Majesty Address on Death of Prince Leopold.

Whitehall, 23*d May* 1884.

Sir,—I have had the honour to lay before the Queen the loyal and dutiful Address of the President, Council, and Members of the Royal Scottish Academy of Painting, Sculpture, and Architecture, on the occasion of the Death of His Royal Highness Prince Leopold, the Duke of Albany, K.G.; and I have the satisfaction to inform you that Her Majesty was pleased to receive the Address very graciously.—I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

W. V. HARCOURT.

The President,
Royal Scottish Academy,
Edinburgh, N.B.

Extract from the Minutes of the Senatus Academicus of the University of Edinburgh, of date 26th April 1884.

The Senatus Academicus of the University of Edinburgh resolve to tender cordial thanks to the President and Council of the Royal Scottish Academy of Painting, Sculpture, and Architecture for their kind co-operation in the recent Tercentenary Festival, and for the brilliant hospitality which they afforded to the Guests of that Festival. The Senatus take this opportunity of expressing their high esteem and regard for the Royal Scottish Academy, with whom of late years, by a Chair of Fine Art, founded in honour of a former President of the Academy, the University has become connected.

Extracted by

JOHN WILSON,

S. S. Academicus.

University, Edinburgh,
28*th April* 1884.

Letter presenting Portrait of Professor Blackie.

London, 7 Cromwell Place,
South Kensington, 27*th June* 1884.

Gentlemen,—I wish at a future time to present to the Academy the portrait I painted some years ago of our well-known and well-beloved Honorary Professor, John Stuart Blackie, whenever death calls him and his wife away from us; and this I write now lest I myself should die before my wish is made known to the Academy, and which I now beg to lodge with them, that there may be no difficulty with his heirs in time to come.—I remain, Gentlemen, your obedient Servant,

JAMES ARCHER.

I always understood that it was on the above condition that the portrait was in my house.

JOHN STUART BLACKIE.

London, 27*th June* 1884.

To the President and Council
of the Royal Scottish Academy.

At the Annual Meeting of the Royal Scottish Academy of Painting, Sculpture, and Architecture, held in the Library of Academy on Wednesday, the 12th of November 1884, the Office-bearers were elected, and the Council declared for the ensuing year, as follows :—

Council.

SIR WILLIAM FETTES DOUGLAS, President and Trustee.

W. D. M'KAY, Esq.
J. DICK PEDDIE, Esq.
J. B. M'DONALD, Esq.

W. BEATTIE BROWN, Esq.
J. SMART, Esq.
W. E. LOCKHART, Esq.

GEORGE HAY, Esq., Secretary and Trustee.

J. M. BARCLAY, Esq., Treasurer and Trustee.

WILLIAM M'TAGGART, Esq., Trustee.

GOURLAY STEELL, Esq., W. E. LOCKHART, Esq., } Auditors.

JOHN HUTCHISON, Esq., . Librarian.

W. D. M'KAY, Esq., J. DICK PEDDIE, Esq., } Curators of Library.

J. M. BARCLAY, Esq., W. E. LOCKHART, Esq., ROBERT GIBB, Esq., OTTO T. LEYDE, Esq., } Visitors of the Life Academy.

NOTE.

At the same Meeting Mr. Joseph Denovan Adam was elected an Associate, and Mr. George A. Lawson, Sculptor, an Honorary Member of the Academy.

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